

NEWS RELEASE

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

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For Immediate Release

January 27, 2005

Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that **COREY D. JONES**, age 31, of Bethalto, Illinois, was sentenced today in Federal District Court for a conviction of the felony offense of Unlawful Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(g)(1), a violation of federal firearms laws. **JONES** was sentenced to a term of 96 months' imprisonment without parole, a \$300.00 fine, a \$100.00 special assessment, and upon completion of his imprisonment, a 3 year period of supervised release. **JONES** had entered a guilty plea to the described felony offense on August 12, 2004.

COREY D. JONES, a previously convicted felon, was arrested in Alton, Illinois, on August 26, 2003, and has remained in custody since his arrest. On August 26, 2003, **JONES** brandished a handgun at a 15 year old juvenile in the 600 Block of Joesting Street, Alton, Illinois. The incident was immediately reported by the mother of the juvenile to Alton Police. Responding to the brandishing incident, Alton Police Officers were able to effect the arrest of **JONES** within a few blocks of the Joesting Street incident. Found in a grassy area nearby **JONES'** arrest location was a loaded 9mm, semi-automatic handgun. Subsequent to the August 26, 2003, incident, **JONES** was identified by the juvenile as the person possessing and brandishing the handgun.

The investigation in this case was a cooperative effort of the City of Alton Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, pursuant to these agencies' participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative. Project Safe Neighborhoods is a joint and cooperative effort of the United States Attorney's Office, the Madison County State's Attorney's Office, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and other federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, and is directed at removing guns and drugs from our communities. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Thomas M. Daly.